



Procurement Times

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ANSWER CONTRACT FACTOIDS!

2244 Task Orders
3.0 Bids/ New Task Orders
\$2.570 B Funded Sales
\$6.52 B Estimated Value

MILLENNIA CONTRACT FACTOIDS!

80 Task Orders
\$2.45 B Funded Sales
\$6.73 B Estimated Value

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Millennia Contract Supports GAO's IT Infrastructure

Jeffrey B. Westerhoff and Monti Jagers

In 2003, GSA FEDSIM awarded SRA and its team members—Beyond Print, Business Edge, Harris Associates, NCI Information Systems, Peace Technology, PEC Solutions, and RGB Technology—a task order under the Millennia contract to provide a broad range of enterprise-wide network engineering and management services to support the General Accounting Office's (GAO's) information technology (IT) infrastructure. Specific tasks include GAO network customer support, enterprise architecture and planning, information systems security and information assurance, application development, data network infrastructure management, and electronic publishing support.

SRA and GAO's Department of Information Systems and Technology Services (ISTS) have an operational partnership and work closely together to determine how to maximize and improve the GAO IT infrastructure. Among the many project challenges are: 1) implementing numerous upgrades in a compressed timeframe in an organization with more than 3,800 users at its headquarters and 11 field offices throughout the United States, 2) employing a state-of-the-art tool set for network monitoring and security enhancements, 3) maintaining and enhancing the GAO networking environment while simultaneously providing 24/7 operational capability.

Under this task order, SRA is working collaboratively with ISTS to effectively achieve its IT goals and objectives. Benefits to GAO include: 1) helping GAO improve its total cost of ownership, 2) minimizing downtime for GAO users, 3) achieving significant gains in customer service by instituting innovative approaches to user support, and 4) network monitoring and management initiatives resulted in GAO customers achieving an average of 99.8% availability.

Period of Performance of ANSWER and Millennia Task Orders

Monti Jagers

In recent months, the GWAC Center has received numerous inquiries regarding the period of performance of task orders under the ANSWER and Millennia contracts. There has been some confusion between the placement of new task orders and the period of performance of those task orders. In 2003, the Contract Vehicle Review Board (CVRB) determined that the ANSWER and Millennia GWAC vehicles had similar scopes of effort and recommended the issuance of a new vehicle to support the ANSWER and Millennia requirements. The new GWAC vehicle will be called Alliant. The CVRB Report emphasized that placement of new task orders will be stopped under ANSWER and Millennia six months after Alliant is awarded. Period of performance of those task orders was not addressed in the report. Additional, and more definitive, guidance from the CVRB is provided as follows:

"For any new orders in the pipeline under ANSWER, the performance period may not go beyond December 2008 or five years, whichever is later. For any new orders in the pipeline under MILLENNIA, the performance period may not go beyond March 2009 or five years, whichever is later. Issuance of new orders under either ANSWER or MILLENNIA must cease no later than three months after the availability of ALLIANT for orders."

GSA has accepted the recommendation of the board and believes that these changes will provide the acquisition community with contract vehicles that will support complex information technology requirements. To effect these changes, the ANSWER and Millennia GWACs will be modified to include the requirement that all new task orders issued under the ANSWER and Millennia GWACs must be completed within the current contract period or within five years of task order award, whichever is later. In addition, new task orders under the ANSWER and Millennia GWACs may be issued up to three months after availability of the new contract vehicle.

GWAC Center Hosts Millennium Contract Refresh Conference

Susan Currey

On February 9-11, 2004, the GWAC Center, Pacific Rim Region hosted the first Millennium Contract Refresh in San Diego, California. Representatives from all of the Millennium Industry Partners, the Federal Systems Integration Management (FEDSIM) Office, and the GWAC Center attended. Attendees included Program, Contract, and Business Managers from Booz, Allen, and Hamilton, Inc.; Computer Sciences Corporation (CSC); DynCorp Systems and Solutions; Lockheed Martin Services, Inc.; Northrop Grumman Information Technology, Inc.; Raytheon Technical Services Company; Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC); Systems Research Application (SRA) International; and Unisys Corporation. GSA attendees included FEDSIM Contracting Officers, GWAC Center Contracting Officers, the GWAC Center Director of Client Services, and the Millennium Program Manager.

Susan Currey, Millennium Procurement Contracting Officer (PCO), opened the conference with welcoming remarks and provided an update of the Millennium Contract and its transition to the GWAC Center. On the first afternoon, Debra Dale, Millennium Program Manager, led the Contract Conforming Session. On the second day, the attendees moved into the Contract Refresh Working Groups. The four teams discussed their respective contract sections and prepared a presentation for recommended service and administrative improvements to the Millennium GWAC. The Contract Refresh Teams consisted of Contract Sections B-G, Contract Section H, Contract Section I, and Contract Section J and the Ordering Guide.

On the last day of the conference, each team presented their suggested contract service and administrative improvements and led the discussions related to their recommended improvements. To complete the contract refresh of the Millennium GWAC, the Millennium PCO will prepare a justification paper for the accepted service and administrative improvements, and prepare the conformed contracts incorporating all contract modifications up to the Contract Refresh Conference. Finally, all new service and administrative improvements will be incorporated into the conformed contract by bilateral modification to the Millennium GWAC, completing the modification cycle.

ANSWER Contracting Officer Corner

Paul Martin

ANSWER Contract Access Fee Reduced. The ANSWER contract was modified to reduce the ANSWER Contract Access Fee (CAF) from 1% to .75%. Effective January 1, 2004, all new ANSWER Task Orders will reflect the .75% CAF. Orders placed prior to January 1, 2004 may be renegotiated at the option of the applicable buying agency and the contractor. The .75% contract access fee applies to all products and services ordered from the contract. The ANSWER ceiling rates with the new CAF will be posted on the ANSWER website at www.gsa.gov/ANSWER.

ANSWER Contract Option Exercised. The ANSWER Contract was modified to exercise contract Option Four, Year Six (6), effective January 1, 2004 with the ten (10) Industry Partners.

Recertification of Small Businesses. The ANSWER Contract was modified to incorporate the recertification of two small businesses, ISS and ITS Corporation, to large business status. The ANSWER PCO will continue to monitor the ANSWER Contractors' Small Business Subcontracting Plans to ensure that small business participation is pursued and small business goals are achieved.

ANSWER Contract Technical Refreshment Preparation Underway. The ANSWER GWAC Center has initiated plans for the Fifth Annual ANSWER Technology Refreshment to be held in Rancho Mirage, CA the week of April 20th - 22nd. This tech refresh conference and workshop allows participants comprised of both GSA's Client Support Centers (CSCs) and ANSWER Industry Partners to work together towards a common goal -- keeping ANSWER's technical currency leading edge.

February Events

Date: February 2-4, 2004
Location: Orlando, FL
Event: Marketing Conference

Date: February 9-11, 2004
Location: San Diego, CA
Event: Millennium Contract Refresh

Date: February 9-11, 2004
Location: Scottsdale, AZ
Event: Solutions Edu -Contract Law

Date: February 18, 2004
Location: San Francisco, CA
Event: Alliant Briefing to Regional Administrator & Staff

Date: February 19-20, 2004
Location: San Francisco, CA
Event: GWAC Center All Hands Meeting

Date: February 26, 2004
Location: San Francisco, CA
Event: Alliant Briefing to FTS IT Directors

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